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SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
PH (707) 576-2526
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235 4TH STREET, SUITE C
EUREKA, CA 95501
PH (707) 445-7014
FAX (707) 445-6607

Assembly California Legislature



PATTY BERG
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, FIRST DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
AGING & LONG-TERM CARE, CHAIR
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH
WATER, PARKS & WILDLIFE
JOINT COMMITTEE:
FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE, CHAIR
SELECT COMMITTEES:
SUSTAINABILITY, CHAIR
WINE

April 2, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Michael Bowen
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project

Dear Chairman Bosco:

I am pleased to offer my support for Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program's Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project.

The Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project marks the beginning of restoring access to 15,000 feet of upstream spawning and rearing habitat for coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. I understand that Caltrans maintains two additional barriers upstream of the County barrier, currently in the design stage for replacement to improve adult and juvenile passage. The Five Counties Program, with a grant from the State Coastal Conservancy, is coordinating this holistic effort.

The existing culvert on Ryan Creek is a partial and complete barrier to migrating coho, Chinook and steelhead adults and juveniles and is the second highest priority barrier in Mendocino County. Water quality, riparian function, sediment deposition, and adult and juvenile passage will be improved through implementation of this important project.

Thank you for your favorable consideration of the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program's Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project. If I can provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact my Eureka District Office at (707) 445-7014.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patty Berg".

PATTY BERG
Assemblywoman, 1st District

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April 2, 2007

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Michael Bowen
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Support for Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project

Dear Chairman Bosco: *Dray*

I am pleased to offer my support the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project.

The Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project has been identified as the highest priority migration barrier in Trinity County and will allow unimpeded access to three miles of upstream spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon and steelhead trout. Water quality, riparian function, sediment deposition, and adult and juvenile passage will be improved through implementation of this project.

The project also contributes to a larger restoration effort occurring within and around the Little Browns Creek watershed area. It is my understanding that among several interested parties, the Trinity County Department of Transportation and the Weaverville Ranger District (Shasta-Trinity National Forest) stand to benefit from the Little Browns project.

I urge your favorable consideration of the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program's request for implementation of the Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project. If I can provide any further information about this worthy project, please do not hesitate to contact my Eureka district Office at (707) 445-7014.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Patty Berg".

PATTY BERG
Assemblywoman, 1st District

State of California

The Resources Agency

M e m o r a n d u m

To: Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Michael Bowen
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: April 5, 2007 Water

From:  **GARY STACEY**
Regional Manager

Subject: **Support for Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project**

The California Department of Fish and Game, Northern Region strongly supports the request from the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program to the Coastal Conservancy to fund partial implementation of the Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project.

The project is located on Roundy Road (Trinity County Road #232) approximately six miles north of Weaverville, California. It is the highest priority migration barrier in Trinity County not treated to date and will allow unimpeded access to three miles of upstream spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon and steelhead trout. The existing culverts on Little Browns Creek are a complete barrier to migrating coho and steelhead adults and juveniles due to a more than eight foot jump at the outlet area of the culverts. The three structures would be removed and a two-lane bridge would be constructed in their place. Installing a structure that is sized to convey the 100-year flows and associated bedload and debris will also reduce the Trinity County Department of Transportation's emergency repair and maintenance costs. Water quality, riparian function, sediment deposition, and adult and juvenile passage will be improved through implementation of this project.

The project also contributes to a larger restoration effort occurring within and around the Little Browns Creek watershed area. The Weaverville Ranger District (Shasta-Trinity National Forest) is proposing a fuels management and timber sale program entitled "Browns Project" and the removal of the Roundy Road barrier was identified as the highest priority treatment in the watershed inventory completed as part of this Project's environmental analysis. The barrier removal is not programmed as part of the 'Browns Project' however, as it is a County maintained structure, bordered upstream and downstream by private land. Critical habitat for the Southern Oregon – Northern California coho Evolutionary Significant Unit is designated up to the barrier culverts on Roundy Road and removal of said barrier would extend the habitat available for this federally threatened ESU.

Mr. Douglas Bosco
April 5, 2007
Page Two

The California Department of Fish and Game, Northern Region urges the Coastal Conservancy to support the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program's request for implementation of the Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project. If you have any questions please contact Senior Biologist Supervisor Gary Flosi at 707-725-1072.

c: Neil Manji and Helen Birss
Department of Fish and Game
830 S Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Steve Turek, Gary Flosi and Kevin Gale
Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

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APR 09 2007

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

State of California

The Resources Agency

Memorandum

To: Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
Attn: Michael Bowen
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Date: April 5, 2007 Water

From: 
GARY STACEY
Regional Manager

Subject: **Support for Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project**

The California Department of Fish and Game, Northern Region strongly supports the request from the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program to the Coastal Conservancy to fund partial implementation of the Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project.

The project is located on Ryan Creek Road (Mendocino County Road #310c), in the Outlet Creek watershed, approximately six miles north of Willits, California. This project marks the beginning of restoring access to 15,000 feet of upstream spawning and rearing habitat for coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Caltrans maintains two additional barriers, located approximately 500 feet upstream of the County barrier, which are currently in the design stage for replacement and retrofit to improve adult and juvenile passage. This effort is also being coordinated by the Five Counties Program with a grant from the State Coastal Conservancy.

The existing culvert on Ryan Creek is a partial and complete barrier to migrating coho, Chinook and steelhead adults and juveniles and is the second highest priority barrier in Mendocino County. The highest priority project is currently designed and awaiting notification on project construction funding for 2008. The project consists of the replacing the existing concrete box culvert with a natural bottom concrete arch structure. The culvert was identified as a barrier during the *Mendocino County Migration Barrier Inventory of County Maintained Stream Crossings on Anadromous Reaches* in 2000. Juveniles and adults have been observed in the outlet pool at the crossing on numerous occasions (pers. comm. Scott Harris, CDFG Biologist; Ross Taylor, Fisheries Consultant).

Replacing the culvert on Ryan Creek with a structure that is sized to convey the 100-year flows and associated bedload and debris will also reduce Mendocino County emergency repair and maintenance costs. Water quality, riparian function, sediment deposition, and adult and juvenile passage will be improved through implementation of this project.

Mr. Douglas Bosco
April 5, 2007
Page Two

The California Department of Fish and Game, Northern Region urges the Coastal Conservancy to support the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program's request for implementation of the Ryan Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project. If you have any questions please contact Senior Biologist Supervisor Gary Flosi at 707-725-1072.

cc: Neil Manji and Helen Birss
Department of Fish and Game
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Sacramento, CA 95814

Steve Turek, Gary Flosi and Kevin Gale
Department of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001

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COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.



April 2, 2007

RE: Support for Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project

California Trout (CalTrout) strongly supports the Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project being proposed by the Five Counties Salmonid Conservation Program.

Fish passage improvement projects that address barrier removal have an extremely high cost benefit ratio and are usually the most effective restoration option for immediate fishery improvement results.

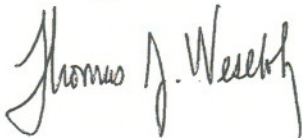
This project will restore upstream fish passage in Little Browns Creek by removing three culverts at the Roundy Road crossing that are complete migration barriers to both juvenile and adult Coho salmon and steelhead. A bridge will be constructed in place of the culverts, removing the only remaining barrier within the watershed and allowing access to 3 miles of spawning and rearing habitat.

The stream crossing on Little Browns Creek is currently ranked as the highest priority project not completed to date within Trinity County and it is the second highest priority project in the Program Area. The project also complements and contributes to a larger restoration effort occurring within and around the Little Browns Creek watershed area.

Little Browns Creek is designated as Critical Habitat for coho salmon up to the barrier on County Road #232. Fishery surveys have documented steelhead at the project site and young-of-the-year coho were located downstream of the project area. Implementing the proposed restoration actions will allow unimpeded access for salmonids through the watershed.

We strongly urge that funding be provided for the Little Browns Creek Migration Barrier Removal Project.

Sincerely,



Thomas J. Weseloh, Northcoast Manager

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APR 04 2007

1976 Archer Road, McKinleyville CA 95519
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OAKLAND, CALIF.